

# MUSTANG DAILY

1916

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

2006

## TODAY'S WEATHER

High 59°

Low 41°

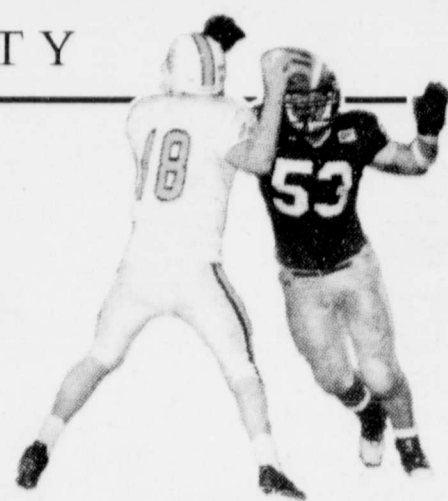


Mustang Daily chats with Amy Ray of the Indigo Girls

IN DIVERSIONS, 7

Mustang football standout invited to NFL Scouting Combine

IN SPORTS, 12



Volume LXIX, Number 66

Wednesday, January 18, 2006

www.mustangdaily.net



COURTESY PHOTO

The Cal Poly Rose Float glided down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena New Year's Day in a down-pour in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade.

## New Year's rain dampens 'Enchanted Reverie' float

Jennifer Hall  
MUSTANG DAILY

Just after ushering in the new year, the Cal Poly Rose Float took to the streets of Pasadena on Jan. 2.

The fairy wonderland with a giant dragon, waterfall and tree house castle marked the 58th consecutive Tournament of Roses Parade entry by Cal Poly students.

The annual float is a yearlong joint project between Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona. This year's float was entitled "Enchanted Reverie" to follow the parade's theme, "It's Magical."

This year marked the first time in 51 years that it rained on parade day, making float decorations and mechanics difficult to maintain.

"There were some challenges, but people on the parade route were happy with it and that's what's important," said Greg Gonzales, a junior materials engineer and assistant construction chair for the float.

The biggest problem occurred with the engine built by Pomona students, which operated the animation. The engine became water logged due to the rain, causing the float to leak.

"I was sitting under a waterfall the whole time, and not the waterfall that was supposed to be there," said Gonzales, who was seated under the float.

Despite these difficulties, the students that worked on the float still thought that it was a successful experience.

"It's great because we get something unstructured and run with it," Gonzales said. **see Float, page 2**

## Chemistry alumnus finds largest prime number

Carolyn Ficara  
MUSTANG DAILY

In a universe of exactness and concrete formulas, they've been called rowdy, erratic, disorderly, humongous, beautiful, monstrous integers. Yet, many people are spending a lot of time looking for them. They are prime numbers, numbers that can only be divided by themselves and by one.

Ever since Euclid, the great Greek mathematician, proved in 325 BC that there are infinite prime numbers, the search has been on.

With 7,000 computers and a team of volunteers, Steven Boone, a 1984 Cal Poly alumnus and now chemistry professor and Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at Central Missouri University, used simple division to prove numbers for their primality. After nine years, another prime number is added to the gang of unpredictable integers. The new hooligan on the prime number line is 2 to the 30402457-1. This is a 9.1 million digit number.

"If one were to print the number in 12-point font," said Boone in a press release, "it would fill 2,800 pages."

Boone and his team discovered the largest Mersenne prime number. It is not as



Steven Boone

unruly as its fellow prime numbers because it is found using a formula that simplifies proof of primality. Mersenne prime numbers are found by multiplying two to the power of 'p' and minus one in which 'p' is a prime number.

There has long been a search for a proof of numbers primality, though some mathematicians say it

is close to being found. This has some people concerned because one of the main uses of prime numbers is in cryptology.

A company in Walnut Creek, Calif., recently unveiled its new technology called

Prime Processing. A real-time data processing engine that will aid in the management and transmission of the exponentially growing data in the financial sector. It can transmit and process 50 million messages per second.

Other theories for the uses of prime numbers are thought to have an integral part, such as the Chaos to Order and Order to Chaos Theory.

Cal Poly and the professors are still an important part of Boone's life.

Christina Bailey, chemistry department head, said Boone was a very good student when he was in her classes. They now work together on the National Exam Committee.

"If one were to print the number in 12-point font, it would fill 2,800 pages."

— STEVEN BOONE

1984 Cal Poly chemistry alumnus



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Benjamin Vaughn holds a candle and a photo that was taken earlier in the day of himself, lower right, with his great uncle Clarence Ray Allen, lower left, and Allen's son Roger Allen, upper left, and his wife, Dell Ray Allen, upper right, inside San Quentin Prison in San Quentin, Calif., late Monday.

## California's oldest condemned inmate executed Tuesday

Don Thompson  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN QUENTIN, Calif. — In the end, California's oldest condemned inmate wasn't as feeble and frail as his attorneys portrayed in their futile efforts to spare his life, describing a man who would have to be carried into the death chamber.

With the help of four large correctional officers, Clarence Ray Allen shuffled from his wheelchair to a gurney in San Quentin State Prison early Tuesday morning, a day after his 76th birthday.

Though legally blind, Allen raised his head to search among execution witnesses for relatives he had invited, mouthing "I love you."

"Hoka hey, it's a good day to die," Allen told the warden in a last statement nod to his Choctaw Indian heritage before being led into the chamber. "Thank you very much, I love you all. Goodbye."

Anticipating a possible replay of his September heart attack, Allen had asked prison authorities to let him die if he went into cardiac arrest before his execution, a request prison officials said they would not honor.

"At no point are we not going to value the sanctity of life," said prison spokesman Vernell Crittendon. "We would resuscitate him."

Crittendon explained that executions are

**see Execution, page 2**



# Float

continued from page 1

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Rose Float committee has four employees and dozens of volunteers that worked around the clock starting early December. Committee members worked over 300 hours each, prior to the parade.

Cal Poly students spent eight weekends in Pomona after they moved the float on Nov. 5.

In addition to the many hours spent on the float, it is also a huge financial project. This year's float cost approximately \$320,000. Much of this money is raised through donations from the community.

"This year was a very expensive float for us," said Andrew Brooks, a junior mechanical engineer and construction chair.

The two campuses raised about \$120,000 and over \$100,000 were donated. However, Cal Poly's float was still the least expensive one in the parade this year.

The next step for the committee is to disassemble the float. The float is removed and the flowers are torn off and recycled but the steel is reused.

"Forget building it; it's all about tearing it apart," said Nick Hellewell, a junior mechanical engineer and rose parade club member.

The 2007 parade theme will be announced Jan. 21, and preparation for the new float will begin immediately.

The committee doesn't get much of a break, which was obvious from their post-parade tradition.

"Sleep. That's our tradition," Gonzales said.

# Execution

continued from page 1

scheduled for one minute after midnight because the death warrant is only valid for that day, giving authorities time to treat an inmate's ailments, then kill the prisoner without having to seek another order.

Allen suffered cardiac arrest four months ago, but was revived and returned to death row. Yet his heart proved strong enough Tuesday, forcing prison officials to administer a second shot of potassium chloride to stop it.

"It's not unusual, this guy's heart had been going for 76 years," said Warden Stephen Ornoski.

He was pronounced dead at 12:38 a.m.

His attorneys had sought clemency from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and reprieves from state and federal courts, claiming the man, who was mostly blind and deaf and suffered from diabetes, was too old and sick to be put to death, that a lethal injection amounted to cruel and unusual punishment.

"The death penalty is always wrong, but tying a blind 76-year-old man to a chair and injecting him with poison is grotesque," Terry Davis, Europe's top human rights watchdog, said in a statement after the execution. Davis chairs the Council of Europe, where the death penalty is outlawed.

Medical records show Allen was indeed ailing, and prison officials

don't dispute his condition. However, some observers saw a man in better condition than he had been portrayed.

Assemblyman Todd Spitzer, R-Orange, witnessed the execution as a member of a legislative committee debating a moratorium on the death penalty.

"He did not appear to be as infirm as news accounts portrayed him. For 76 years old, he looked to be in remarkably good shape," Spitzer said.

Allen died wearing a beaded headband, a medicine bag around his neck and a ceremonial eagle feather on his chest. Two American Indian spiritual advisers visited with him in the hours before the execution.

He released a last statement read by Ornoski saying he enjoyed his last meal — a buffalo steak, fried chicken, Indian pan-fried bread, a pint of black walnut ice cream and sugar-free pecan pie. But Allen had proclaimed his innocence, and his final words never mentioned the 1980 hit job that resulted in the murders of a 17-year-old girl and two men, ages 18 and 27.

The family of one of Allen's victims, Josephine Rocha, said in a statement that Allen "abused the justice system with endless appeals until he lived longer in prison than the short 17 years of Josephine's life."

Allen was serving a life term at Folsom State Prison when he gave a recently paroled convict a list of seven witnesses who had helped put

him behind bars for the 1974 murder of Mary Sue Kitts, his son's teenage girlfriend who helped him burglarize a Fresno grocery store. He wanted the seven killed so they couldn't testify during his appeals.

Among those targeted was Bryon Schletewitz, whose family owned Fran's Market. Schletewitz and two clerks — Rocha and Douglas Scott White — were slain.

The killings landed Allen and hit man Billy Ray Hamilton on death row. No execution date has been set for Hamilton.

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday rejected Allen's last-minute appeal.

One of Allen's attorneys, Annette Carnegie, blamed "prison authorities' deliberate neglect of his medical needs" for his physical condition.

But Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger rejected similar arguments in denying Allen clemency Friday.

Allen was the second-oldest inmate executed in the United States since capital punishment resumed nearly 30 years ago, behind only a 77-year-old in Mississippi last month.

His was California's 13th execution since state lawmakers restored capital punishment in 1977 and the third in the last 12 months.

"It went smoothly, it went as it was planned, and I believe ultimately, Mr. Allen received the justice he deserved for the murders he committed," state prosecutor Ward Campbell said.

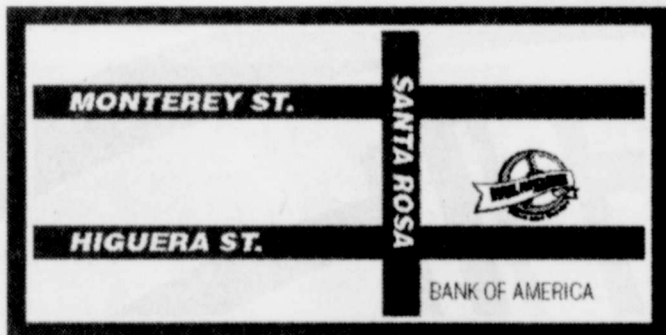
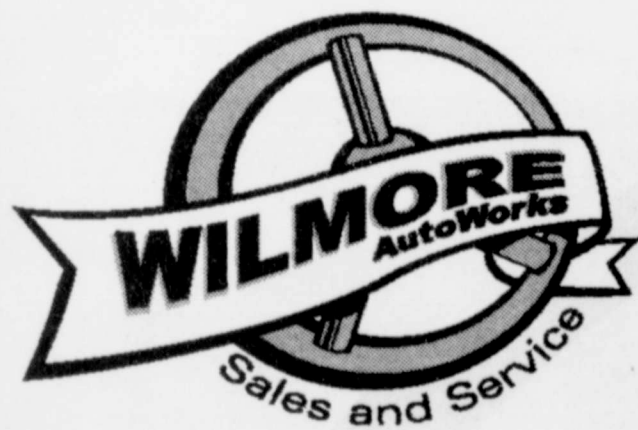
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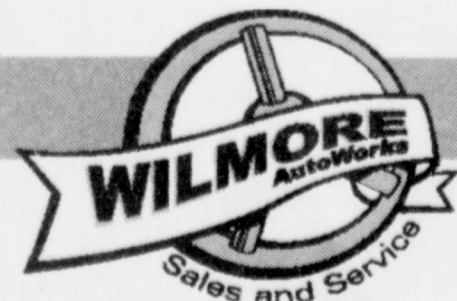
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3				1			5
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8		4				2	9
		3	6		9	1	
1		7				3	6
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2				3			8
	3					2	

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## WHO SAID THAT?

Being in politics is like being a football coach. You have to be smart enough to understand the game, and dumb enough to think it's important.

— Eugene McCarthy

Sometimes being a friend means mastering the art of timing. There is a time for silence. A time to let go... And a time to prepare to pick up the pieces when it's all over.

— Gloria Naylor

## Wordly Wise

**Comity:** A state of mutual harmony, friendship, and respect.

## THIS WEEK

### IN ASI EVENTS

#### UU HOUR

Featuring MATCLI, Indie Rock  
Thursday, Jan. 19  
11 - noon in the UU Plaza - FREE

#### NEW GENERATION COMEDY TOUR

Thursday, Jan. 19  
8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium - FREE

The tour showcases three of the best young comedians in the nation. The trio has performed on Comedy Central, "The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn" and MTV. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Seating is limited and admittance is first come, first served.

#### UU GALLERY

Featuring "ART - OFFICIALLY URBAN"

The show is an artistic journey exploring the world of hip-hop. The free exhibit, on display through Jan. 20, is open 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday in the UU Epicenter.

#### TICKETS ON SALE NOW

AVENGED SEVENFOLD, live in concert  
Wednesday, Feb. 15  
Show at 7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m. - in the Rec Center

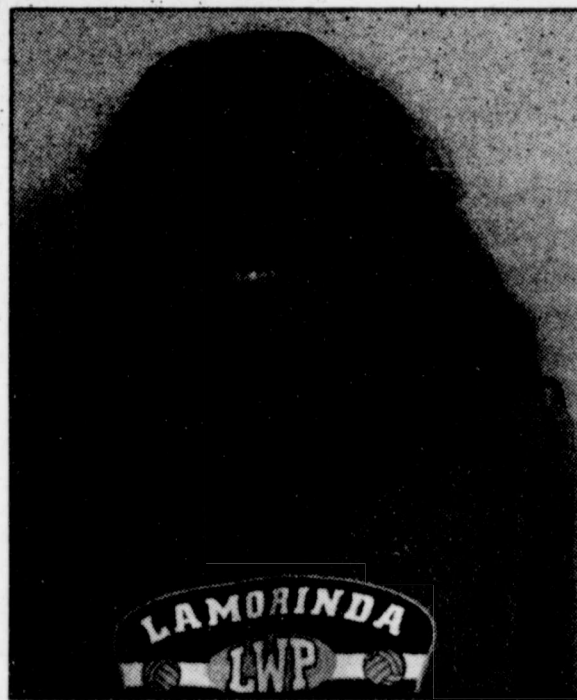
The current radio and MTV darlings will bring their infectious melodic metal core to Cal Poly. Advance tickets are on sale at all Vallitix outlets including the Mustang Ticket Office and [vallitix.com](http://vallitix.com) for \$20 plus handling.

[WWW.ASI.CALPOLY.EDU/EVENTS](http://WWW.ASI.CALPOLY.EDU/EVENTS)

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## The Face of



## Cal Poly

Name: Brittany Shelby • Year: junior  
Hometown: Concord • Major: history

### Favorites

**Ice cream:** Mint chip  
**Candy:** Peanut M&M's  
**Animal:** Cat, because they don't need a lot of attention and they lie around all day  
**Movies:** "Edward Scissorhands"  
**TV show:** "Grey's Anatomy"  
**Cartoon:** "SpongeBob SquarePants"

### If You Could ...

— have any super power what would it be and why?  
Invisibility, because I could avoid people I can't.

— be one superstar for a day who would you be and why?  
Angelina Jolie because he has Brad Pitt.

### Other

**Pepsi or Coke:** Rootbeer

**Worst pickup line:** "Did it hurt when you fell from heaven?"

**Most overused phrase:** "That's chill."

# STUDENT FEE REFERENDUM

February 22nd & 23rd

A proposal to increase the Instructionally Related Activities (IRA) Fee has been approved for a student advisory referendum on February 22nd and 23rd, 2006.

The following Open forums have been scheduled where students can ask questions and learn more about this important proposal:

Thursday, January 26, 11:10 a.m. UU Room 220  
Thursday, February 9, 11:10 a.m. Business Bldg Rotunda  
Monday, February 13, 6:00 p.m. UU Room 220

Additional information including an Objective Statement and Financial Analysis, Pro and Con Statements, sample ballot, and polling times and locations is now available on the web at the following location:  
<http://studentaffairs.calpoly.edu/feeref>

Voter pamphlets are also available at the University Union Information Desk and the Kennedy Library Main Desk



## State briefs

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Officials hope to make San Francisco friendlier to filmmakers with a proposal to offer financial incentives and rebates for shooting productions in the city.

Supervisor Michela Alioto-Pier planned to introduce legislation Tuesday that would rebate city-imposed fees and expenses on big budget filmmakers who film at least 65 percent of their principal photography in San Francisco.

**MONTEREY (AP)** — Warming ocean currents are bringing sardines back to Monterey Bay after decades of decline.

Some scientists think global warming could be partly responsible for the burgeoning sardine population, although no one can say for sure whether warmer water is part of a natural cycle.

**LONG BEACH (AP)** — An Australian energy firm said it has a safer, environmentally agreeable way to ship liquefied natural gas to California that doesn't use terminals proposed by three other companies.

The plan by Woodside Natural Gas Inc., a subsidiary of Woodside Energy Ltd., would convert natural gas from a liquid state on tankers and bring it ashore through a pipeline rather than making the conversion at an onshore facility.

## California school district agrees to stop teaching 'intelligent design' course

Juliana Barbassa  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRESNO — Under legal pressure, a rural school district Tuesday canceled an elective philosophy course on "intelligent design."

A group of parents had sued the El Tejon school system last week, accusing it of violating the constitutional separation of church and state with "Philosophy of Design," a high school course taught by a minister's wife that advanced the notion that life is so complex it must have been created by some kind of higher intelligence.

The district agreed to halt the course at Frazier Mountain High next week and said it would never again offer a "course that promotes or endorses creationism, creation science or intelligent design."

"This sends a strong signal to school districts across the country that they cannot promote creationism or intelligent design as an alternative to evolution, whether they do so in a science class or a humanities class," said Ayesha N. Khan, legal director for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, which represented the parents.

In a landmark lawsuit, Americans United successfully blocked the Dover, Pa., school system last month from teaching intelligent design alongside evolu-



Students from Frazier Mountain High leave the school on Friday afternoon, Jan. 13, in Lebec, Calif.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

tion in high school biology classes. U.S. District Judge John E. Jones III ruled that intelligent design is religion masquerading as science.

However, some activists contended that Jones' ruling opened the door to teaching intelligent design in philosophy or religion classes.

The settlement in the El Tejon school district was announced just before a federal judge was scheduled to hold a hearing on whether to halt the class midway through the monthlong winter term.

All five of the cash-strapped district's trustees voted to settle the potentially expensive case, said Pete Carton, the district's attorney. The class started Jan. 3 with 15 students.

El Tejon Superintendent John

Wight said the subject was proper for a philosophy class. But Americans United argued the course relied almost exclusively on videos that presented religious theories as scientific ones.

The high school in the Tehachapi Mountains about 75 miles north of Los Angeles draws 500 students from a dozen small communities.

Sharon Lemburg, a social studies teacher and soccer coach who taught "Philosophy of Design," defended the course in a letter to the weekly Mountain Enterprise. "I believe this is the class that the Lord wanted me to teach," she wrote.

Similar battles over intelligent design are being fought in Georgia and Kansas.

## Homeowner shoots mountain lion in back yard

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA — A homeowner shot a mountain lion in the back yard of a Trabuco Canyon home Tuesday and authorities then tracked down the wounded cougar and killed it.

The mountain lion fled from the residence into a ravine near an elementary school where by sheriff's deputies and state Department of Fish and Game wardens had no choice but to shoot it, said Orange County Sheriff's Department spokesman Jim Amormino.

"A wounded cat is an extremely dangerous cat," Amormino said.

The incident will be investigated to determine whether the initial shooting was justified, he said.

Resident Laurie Hill said she saw the 90-pound mountain lion in the back yard of her Cimarron Lane home at about 7 a.m. and her husband went to investigate. The residential area is next to Cleveland National Forest, about 30 miles southeast of Santa Ana.

Bill Hill, a former Stanton police officer and now a private investigator, told TV reporters he shot twice with his 9 mm pistol.

The mountain lion then fled through a wrought iron fence, he said.



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## National briefs

WASHINGTON (AP) —

The Supreme Court on Tuesday blocked the Bush administration's attempt to punish doctors who help terminally ill patients die, protecting Oregon's one-of-a-kind assisted-suicide law.

It was the first loss for Chief Justice John Roberts, who joined the court's most conservative members — Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas — in a long but restrained dissent.

...

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Officials say Augustine Volcano has erupted, sending ash plume 8 1/2 miles into the air.

...

PASCAGOULA, Miss. (AP) — Ending months of speculation, Sen. Trent Lott announced Tuesday that he will run for a fourth term this year, saying Mississippi "is hurting and needs help."

The 64-year-old Republican told a hometown crowd he wants to continue working on federal issues related to the state's recovery from Hurricane Katrina, saying now is not the time to consider leaving the Senate.

"I want you to know that as long as Mississippi is hurting and needs help, I'll be there for this state if the people will allow me to," said Lott, who lost his beach-side house to Katrina on Aug. 29.

...

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Mayor Ray Nagin apologized Tuesday for a Martin Luther King Day speech in which he predicted that New Orleans would be a "chocolate" city once more and asserted that "God was mad at America."

## NY federal courts seek to block domestic eavesdropping program

Larry Neumeister  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Federal lawsuits were filed Tuesday seeking to halt President Bush's domestic eavesdropping program, calling it an "illegal and unconstitutional program" of electronic eavesdropping on American citizens.

The lawsuits accusing Bush of exceeding his constitutional powers were filed in federal court in New York by the Center for Constitutional Rights and in Detroit by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The New York suit, filed on behalf of the center and individuals, names Bush, the head of the National Security Agency, and the heads of the other major security agencies, challenging the NSA's surveillance of persons within the United States without judicial approval or statutory authorization.

It asked a judge to stop Bush and government agencies from conducting warrantless surveillance of communications in the United States.

The Detroit suit, which also names the NSA, was filed by the ACLU, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Greenpeace and several individuals.

Messages seeking comment were left Tuesday morning with the National Security Agency and the Justice Department.

Bush has pointed to a congressional resolution passed after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, that authorized him to use force in the fight against terrorism as allowing him to order the program.

The program authorized eavesdropping of international phone calls

and e-mails of people deemed a terror risk.

The New York lawsuit noted that federal law already allows the president to conduct warrantless surveillance during the first 15 days of a war and allows court authorization of surveillance for agents of foreign powers or terrorist groups.

Instead of following the law, Bush "unilaterally and secretly authorized electronic surveillance without judicial approval or congressional authorization," the lawsuit said.

At a news conference, Center for Constitutional Rights Legal Director Bill Goodman portrayed the president as a man on an unprecedented power grab at the expense of basic democratic principles.

He said the public was starting to understand the assertion that the erosion of individual rights is a slippery slope that lets the government "brand anyone a terrorist with no right to counsel, no right to be brought before a judge and no right to privacy in communications."

The Detroit lawsuit said the plaintiffs have a "well-founded belief" that their communications are being intercepted by the government.

"By seriously compromising the free speech and privacy rights of the plaintiffs and others, the program violates the First and Fourth Amendments of the United States Constitution," the lawsuit states.

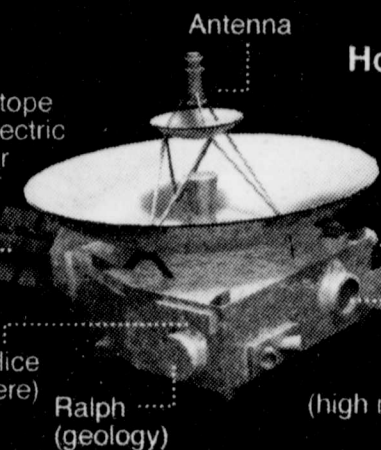
In its suit in New York, the Center for Constitutional Rights maintained its work was directly affected by the surveillance because its lawyers represent a potential class of hundreds of Muslim foreign nationals detained after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

NASA

## Last planet

A piano-sized spacecraft is set to launch its mission to explore Pluto and beyond, completing NASA's initial reconnaissance of the Solar System.

Radioisotope thermoelectric generator



New Horizons probe

SWAP (solar wind)

LORRI (high resolution imager)

SOURCE: NASA

Andy Fowle • AP

## Winds force NASA to cancel launch of probe

Mike Schneider  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — High winds forced NASA to scrub the launch Tuesday of an unmanned spacecraft on a nine-year, 3-billion-mile voyage to Pluto, the solar system's last unexplored planet.

NASA planned to try again Wednesday to launch the New Horizons probe, although the forecast held a greater chance of thunderstorms, clouds and gusty winds that could prevent a launch.

On Tuesday, winds at the launch pad exceeded the space agency's 38 mph flight restriction.

"The winds picked up sooner than expected," said MIT scientist Richard Binzel, one of the mission's investigators. "Blame the meteorologists."

A successful journey to Pluto would complete an exploration of the planets started by NASA in the early 1960s with unmanned missions to observe Mars, Mercury and Venus.

"What we know about Pluto today could fit on the back of a postage stamp," Colleen Hartman, a deputy associate administrator at NASA, said earlier. "The textbooks will be rewritten after this mission is completed."

The launch also drew attention from opponents of nuclear power because the spacecraft is powered by 24 pounds of plutonium, whose natural radioactive decay will generate electricity for the probe's instruments.

Pluto is the only planet discovered by a U.S. citizen, though some astronomers dispute Pluto's right to be called a planet. It is an oddball icy dwarf unlike the rocky planets of Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars and the gaseous planets of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.

"My dad would be absolutely thrilled to see this," said Annette Tombaugh-Sitze, whose father, astronomer Clyde Tombaugh, discovered Pluto in 1930.

Pluto is the brightest body in a zone of the solar system known as the Kuiper Belt, made up of thousands of icy, rocky objects, includ-

ing tiny planets whose development was stunted by unknown causes. Scientists believe studying those "planetary embryos" can help them understand how planets were formed.

"Something, and we don't understand what ... stopped that process of growth and left us with this fantastic relic, this forensic evidence of planets that were arrested in the midstage of growth," said Alan Stern, the \$700 million mission's principal investigator.

An Atlas V rocket had been programmed to speed New Horizons away from Earth at 36,000 mph, the fastest launch speed on record.

Once launched, the craft was expected to reach Earth's moon in about nine hours and arrive in 13 months at Jupiter, where it will use the giant planet's gravity as a slingshot, shaving five years off the 3-billion-mile trip.

The distance involved means scientists will not be able to receive data on Pluto until at least July 2015, the earliest date the mission is expected to arrive.

Some NASA safety managers had raised concerns about a rocket fuel tank since a similar test tank failed a factory pressure evaluation. The decision was made to attempt the launch since the flight tank was in pristine condition and had no signs of any defects like the ones found on the test tank, said NASA launch director Omar Baez.

Thirty anti-nuclear protesters showed up recently to oppose this mission's plutonium-powered generator, compared with hundreds who protested the launch more than eight years of the Cassini mission to Saturn, which carried 72 pounds of plutonium.

The two Mars rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, sent up in 2003, had much smaller amounts of plutonium, which also was used on six Apollo flights.

NASA and the Department of Energy estimated the probability of a launch accident that could release plutonium at 1 in 350. As a precaution, the agencies brought in 16 mobile field teams that can detect radiation and 33 air samplers and monitors.

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# THE ART BEAT

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## The Ghost of Writers Past

Chuck Palahniuk is the go-to guy if you want to lose your lunch. He, perhaps more than any other contemporary author, is infamous for his twisted situations and shuddering attention to detail. His latest offering, "Haunted," is ambitious in its attempt but still doesn't stray far from his formula (sick mind + gross situation = gold!). Like his own sequencing, the story skitters in several directions, but eventually braids together to a disappointing conclusion. But, at the same time, "Haunted" is also the most honest idea he's ever written.

The story concerns an isolated writers' retreat, which quickly dissolves into paranoid hysteria and absolutely no productivity. The wannabe scribes pass the time by scarfing prepackaged meals, complaining at length and crafting largely autobiographical anecdotes with single-minded intensity. (This I can relate to.) Their tales are the only indication of their pasts before the spooky vacation, and are as far into characterization as Palahniuk gets; this assures that we never relate to the characters, because most only exist in the meta-level of their own creativity (i.e. fiction within fiction). So when they start getting hacked up and gobbled down — and trust me, no detail is spared — it's hard to sympathize with them. (One exception: the boy who chewed through his own intestinal tract. It's hard not to pity

that scenario.)

But squeamish, take rest; "Haunted" is disturbing, but no more violent than his past novels. It's less anarchistic than "Fight Club," less sexually aggressive than "Choke" — and its narration is a bold move. Gone are most of the short, choppy sentences and the portentousness that accompanied them. (I think I just made up a word, but I'm pretty sure he does that, too.) Aside from an unsatisfying, weak conclusion and truly annoying conclusive anecdote (Venus is the new Earth, apparently), the book is an engaging read of kinetic thoughts. And in its 400-plus pages, Palahniuk exposes a completely new idea: Writers are liars.

Or, at least, they are manipulative and desperate, and his admission of this elevates the otherwise unremarkable plot. It's so true, it hurts; in "Haunted," the gang of writers worsen and compound their problems so they can tell a better saga upon their escape (they even thwart each chance to leave their hell because it interferes with the cinematic ending of being "found"). The scenes in which they purposefully destroy their surroundings reveal the true mania of writers; they will twist and mutilate



STACEY ANDERSON  
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

their surroundings (not always literally, though) in the hopes of creating an unforgettable story and receiving the world's adoration.

This is something I've discovered since starting college: writers live by their own narration, which makes boring surroundings the ultimate curse.

Wanting better material is a given but, probably more than any other profession, that competitiveness will shape more than a career. This is why "Haunted" rang so true; its characters intentionally heighten their situations for their pens, and Palahniuk is one of the first to acknowledge that ambition.

This drive is one I recognize in myself, and it's unsettling how I don't understand it. (Then again, neither do others; after my string of degrading social experiments last year, culminating with the "Follow the Rules" fiasco, my friend James still refuses to trust me.) That's why I'm still thinking about "Haunted" — because it explains me. And if you're a writer, chances are it explains you, too. This newly exposed undercurrent behind stories is so strong; authors become dependent on the sharp phrasing of events, to the point that they become an internal

monologue. (Do mathematicians think in primes?) And nothing matches the panic of those words running dry. On a good day, snarky "bon mots" for stories (and, in some cases, columns) consistently pop until they cloud what's actually happening.

So, I've had a revelation: this accounts for why I am frequently, maddeningly impulsive. I've been constructed from my own profession, and brought to my realizations from that path. I feel the need to have a more exciting life than, say, you — and there's a good chance I don't even know you, but I need the story more. (And if I do know you, I've probably already entangled you in something reckless and stupid, so my apologies.) After reading "Haunted," my ego is pretty bruised, but I'm wondering if that's a good thing. Our daily interactions are so staid; awhile ago, I figured that those moments of unprocessed passion are the best shot at transcendence. And I'll take them, and the words that will follow.

So, "Haunted" rang clear; maybe it will illuminate you. And stay away from writers, because we're all more than a little insane.

Stacey Anderson is a journalism and music senior, KCPR DJ and somewhat friendly ghost. Catch her Sundays 7 to 8 p.m. and Thursdays 3 to 5 p.m. on 91.3 FM or e-mail her at [standers@calpoly.edu](mailto:standers@calpoly.edu).

## 'Hoodwinked' more than just another fairy tale

Aaron Allen

DAILY UTAH CHRONICLE (U. UTAH)

SALT LAKE CITY — Watching "Hoodwinked," I was reminded of that old, touchy-feely, after-school-special warning: "Don't judge a book by its cover."

I was also reminded of Jim Carrey's classic reply in "Liar, Liar": "That's just something ugly people say."

It's unavoidable that people will compare the jarringly crude animation in "Hoodwinked" with the fluid, fantastical work that Pixar routinely puts out — and that's a little unfair. So what if Little Red Riding Hood and The Big Bad Wolf look as though they could exist in the same low-tech universe as the Geico gecko? The story exhibits a lot of wit and charm, even when it goes into twitchy eye spasms, winking at

itself and everyone else.

"Hoodwinked" is a "Rashomon"-style fairy tale that wields its post-modernism like num-chucks, efficiently dispatching all forms of sincerity with a swing-swing here and a whack-whack there.

The Little Red Riding Hood story is told and re-told (and re-re-told) from multiple perspectives when "the fuzz" (they're literally fuzzy forest police creatures) are called in to investigate a domestic dispute at Granny's house.

All the key players tell their own version of what happened: Little Red (voiced by Anne Hathaway) was making deliveries for goodie-maven Granny (Glenn Close), when the Wolf (Patrick Warburton) engaged her in hand-to-hand combat. Oh, and then the Woodsman (Jim Belushi) crashed through the window, wielding his



COURTESY PHOTO

ax like a maniac.

The movie has fun with the idea that its classic fairy tale characters aren't who we expect them to be. The goofy screenplay (by Cory Edwards, Todd Edwards and Tony Leech) quickly apologizes for any honest emotions with its slew of genre-tweaking jokes. This paradox is junk food made palatable by the film's breezy gusto and the priceless voice acting — particularly Warburton, who has made a formidable career out of simply talking (his Kronk in "The Emperor's New Groove" was hilarious).

Don't judge this storybook by its cover — "Hoodwinked" may look long in the tooth, but it still has bite.

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# Get ready to paint the town indigo



Nick Coury

MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly's Christopher Cohan Center will be colored indigo on Thursday with Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, known in the music industry as the Indigo Girls.

I recently talked with Ray, guitarist and singer of the duo, about their music and playing in San Luis Obispo.

**Mustang Daily (MD):** Hey, how's it going?

**Amy Ray (AR):** Good, thanks.

**MD:** Where are you two based?

**AR:** Atlanta, Ga.

**MD:** How long

have you two been playing together?

**AR:** For nearly 25 years. We met in high school in 1980, in chorus. We just decided to

get together and play music.

**MD:** Why music?

**AR:** I really enjoyed it when I was young. (It was) a way to escape. It's fun.

**MD:** Who are your influences as a musician?

**AR:** Back (when we started) it was Neil Young. Now it's artists like Patti Smith, The Clash, politically influenced music and a lot of "indie" bands. I probably listen to more unsigned stuff.

**MD:** Where do you get inspiration to continue playing and writing?

**AR:** I gather stories from books, movies, mostly other music, stories from neighbors. Just things that are going on.

**MD:** How long do you two continue to play music?

**AR:** We've been doing it for so long. As long as we can keep it fresh and have new ambitions.

**MD:** How has the industry changed for the Indigo Girls over your time as musicians?

**AR:** Things are radically different (now). (Back then) the (inter)net wasn't a tool, and there was a lot of indie-underground, post-punk era music to get out then. Now most of the airplay is corporate, and it's harder to get played. But with things like Myspace, the Internet is taking over.

Everything stays the same, but the tools change to achieve what we want.

**MD:** Where does the name (Indigo Girls) come from?

**AR:** (We were) trying to think of

something to call ourselves. We looked at the dictionary trying to find a name that popped out.

**MD:** What have you been listening lately?

**AR:** Queens of

Stone Age, The Shins, The Gossip, The Distillers.

**MD:** What do you want students coming to the show (on Thursday) to get out of it?

**AR:** We just want people to have fun in a communal situation. We want people to feel empowered, and ready to face the day.

The Indigo Girls' performance begins at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Christopher Cohan Center, with opening act, rock 'n' roll band Three5Human, which has been described as "Tina Turner meets the Black Crowes" by music critics.

All tickets for the Indigo Girls' performance are \$38, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office.

For more information about events at the PAC, visit [www.pacs-lo.org](http://www.pacs-lo.org).

The Indigo Girls perform at the Christopher Cohan Center Thursday with opening act Three5Human.

COURTESY PHOTO

## Look for a little meanness in 'American Idol' competition

David Bauder

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PASADENA, Calif. — If you think it rang a little false when "American Idol" contestants professed their love and friendship toward one another, you're right.

"They don't all love each other," judge Simon Cowell said on Tuesday, "and they've never loved each other."

"Because they all want to win," echoed fellow judge Randy Jackson.

The show's new season began yesterday — always a joyous day for Fox — and people at "American Idol" say this season will be marked by the way contestants drop pretenses of camaraderie, and point fingers of blame when things go wrong.

"They all hate each other deep down, but they aren't going to say it on camera," Jackson said.

By contrast, Fox worked Tuesday to dampen any internal controversies. Judge Paula Abdul, who was allowed to remain with the show after the network concluded a charge that she had an affair with one of the show's contestants couldn't be substantiated, didn't attend a news conference she was scheduled to attend with Cowell and Jackson.

Fox explained moments before the meeting that Abdul had an eye infection and was going to the doctor.

Fox entertainment chief Peter Liguori said the network considered the case closed, that there was no proof the sanctity of the competition was violated.

Liguori and others at Fox are eagerly awaiting the second half of the TV season, when "Idol" should, as it has in the past, kicked the network into high gear.

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## Congress could cut \$12.7 billion in college loans

Eileen Laux

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN (KANSAS STATE U.)

MANHATTAN, Kan. — College students may be soon facing a large cut in student loans. Under the Deficit Reduction Act, almost \$12.7 billion would be cut over the next five years.

Larry Moeder, director of admissions and student financial assistance, said the cuts will not affect students immediately. He said the cuts may not be all bad because many lenders will be waiving the 3 percent origination fee and some students will not have it as soon as this summer.

Moeder said there is a provision to lock in a higher interest rate instead of keeping the variable that floats up each year.

"Students may have the opportunity to borrow more while in college, but after graduation, interest rates may be higher, and it will cost more there," he said.

Moeder said more students will be affected in the future and consolidations may be put in jeopardy.

"Any time there is an additional burden put onto the backs of students, that isn't a good thing," he said. "Students receive financial aid because they need it and making it more expensive will not help matters."

Alternative options other than loans are available for students if they are unable to afford school. Moeder said a private education and scholarships are among many options.

"Scholarships give students more control and are generally based on merit instead of need," he said. "I would advise students to become very aggressive in their search for scholarships."

Martha Holler, spokeswoman for Sallie Mae, a top student-loan

lender, said the Senate has passed the bill, the House is expected to pass it, and the president has intended to sign it into a law.

"We will adjust to the changes in the law and will continue to provide industry leading products and services," she said.

Holler said cuts are made to lenders and special interests and aren't made to students.

The \$40-billion cuts one-third of the student loan program. The cuts will allow more student and family provisions. Limits will increase and students will be able to borrow more money as opposed to looking to other sources. The cuts will extend PLUS loans to graduate students, phase out origination fees, expand loan forgiveness to teachers and fixes the student loan interest rate to 6.8 percent.

This rate will apply to loans issued on or after July 1.

Based on the estimated rise when rates reset, the estimation comes close to the fixed rate. The total value of saving over the next five years is still unclear.

RaeAnna Seaton, senior in family studies and human services, said she wants to know what the money will be used for. If it is used for a good purpose than she sees it as an advantage.

"For some students, loans are the only way that they can attend college," she said. "We need education to survive in our society."

She said the fixed interest rate is a good idea because it will no longer rise, but she wonders for how long.

"I've got a lot of questions about this whole thing," she said. "Where is the fine print? If it will help in the long run that is great, but I need to know more details and understand before I say taking money away from student loans is good."

## Researchers find that winter months may trigger depression

Shauntel Lowe

DAILY BRUIN (UCLA)

LOS ANGELES — The cold weather and holiday-filled winter months may make people more vulnerable to depression, according to some researchers, and students have many warning signs to look out for to ensure the well-being of family and friends.

The link between seasons and mood is drawn through Seasonal Affective Disorder.

The belief behind the disorder is that getting fewer hours of daylight leads to a depressed mood, said Kathleen Lambird, a psychology intern for Student Psychological Services at the University of California at Los Angeles. Lambird said the main factor that distinguishes depression from a sad period in someone's life is impairment in a person's functioning. She said an inability to keep up with responsibilities and changes in sleep patterns, mood and eating habits are key signs that something may be wrong.

For a formal diagnosis of depression, the symptoms need to have persisted for at least two weeks, Lambird said.

Increased consumption of alcohol and drug use are also symptoms of depression.

"If you're using them to escape from feelings of sadness, that's an ominous sign," said Dr. Ian Cook, a professor in the department of psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine.

Cook said occasionally using alcohol to escape one's feelings is not the problem, but rather when use becomes regular and is more

often than not relied on for relief.

Another common cause of depression is genetics.

"For many years it has been known that depression often runs in families," Cook said.

People have focused on the role of neurotransmitters, particularly serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine, in depression, he said. Cook explained that neurotransmitters modulate how the brain processes inputs from the outside world and how they translate into behaviors and feelings.

"The working model is that if we can improve neurotransmission by increasing neurotransmitters, people's symptoms tend to remit," he said.

Many of the common anti-depressant medications, like Prozac and Zoloft, work by altering levels of serotonin.

But unlike other chemicals, such as caffeine and nicotine which affect the brain quickly, these types of medications can take weeks to have positive effects, which may cause people who are used to fast results to stop treatment prematurely, Cook said. He added that in some cases, the medications may even worsen the depression and lead to suicidal thinking, but doctors aren't sure why.

The stigma associated with depression shouldn't stop people from getting treatment, said Tina Oakland, director of the UCLA Center for Women and Men.

"Depression is not a character flaw. It's not about being weak. It really is a brain chemistry issue," she said.

## Dartmouth medical school study links movies to alcohol use

Mary Katherine Flanigan

THE DARTMOUTH (DARTMOUTH)

HANOVER, N.H. — Young adolescents who are exposed to movies that depict high levels of alcohol use are more likely to experiment with alcohol at an early age, according to a recent study by Dr. James Sargent, a pediatrics professor at Dartmouth Medical School.

Sargent, along with a team of researchers, studied over 600 films and interviewed 5,000 students to explore the causes of early alcohol use among teens.

The study expanded upon previous research, which showed that early initiation to alcohol abuse — before age 14 — was a major risk factor associated with alcohol abuse later in life. Previous research also concluded that depictions of alcohol use in movies have a disproportionate impact on young children, perhaps even more so than the alcohol use of parents or peers.

In the course of his research, which began in 1997, Sargent interviewed over 5,000 Vermont and New Hampshire students between the ages of 11 and 14. A pediatrician by profession, he said his concern for children encouraged his interest in this field.

"This study is aimed at the prevention of early alcohol use and our hope is that parents of young children become more aware that drinking in films is common and that seeing these depictions can lead to early experimentation with drinking," Sargent said.

The researchers studied 601 movies and found that the vast majority, 92 percent, of them depict alcohol use. Of the films included in the study, 52 percent of those rated G, 89 percent of those rated PG, 93 percent of those rated PG-13 and 95 percent of those rated R depicted alcohol use in some capacity. In the majority of these movies scenes, alcohol was portrayed in a positive light, usually included during a party or right before a romantic scene.

Sargent assessed the children's movie watching behavior and questioned each viewer as to whether or she had tried alcohol before. He took note of each student's academic performance, gender and personality. Two years later, he followed up with the non-drinking students and concluded that those students who were exposed to more depictions of alcohol use in films were much more likely to have started drinking.

Sargent's findings — that the exposure of children to depictions of alcohol in movies is correlated to a greater likelihood for future alcohol use — was published in the January issue of the Journal of Studies on Alcohol.

Sargent hopes that through this research parents will become more aware of what their children are watching, and more conscious of the effect it may have on the children's future.

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## International briefs

**PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)** — Cambodia on Tuesday released four imprisoned government critics in a gesture to the United States, which had condemned the arrests.

Prime Minister Hun Sen met with Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Christopher Hill before the four prominent activists were released and promised to ask a Cambodian court to free them on bail. The government said the four will still face defamation charges.

**BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)** — The chief judge who resigned from Saddam Hussein's trial amid claims of government interference is expected to be replaced by his deputy, the top Iraqi investigator in the case said Tuesday.

Judge Raed Juhi, who investigated Saddam before his trial started but is not one of those trying the deposed Iraqi leader, said the court was set up under a law stipulating the chief judge's deputy would take over for him if needed. Saad al-Hamash is the second-ranking member of the five-judge tribunal headed by Rizgar Mohammed Amin.

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Russia's foreign minister indicated Tuesday that Moscow was not ready to support moves by the U.S. and its European allies to refer Iran to the U.N. Security Council over its nuclear program, while the West stepped up pressure on Tehran.

**LONDON (AP)** — Anti-terrorist police arrested a 27-year-old man in connection with the attempted July 21 bombings on London's transit network, officials said Tuesday.

Police raided two homes in western London after the man was detained at 11:40 a.m., according to London's Metropolitan police.

# Broadcaster airs tape of American hostage, statement gives U.S. 72 hours to free prisoners

Steven R. Hurst  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO, Egypt — An Arab television channel aired a silent 20-second videotape Tuesday night of hostage American reporter Jill Carroll and said an accompanying message gave the United States 72 hours to free female prisoners in Iraq or the journalist would be killed.

The tape showed the 28-year-old reporter sitting in front of a white background and speaking, but her voice could not be heard. On the tape, Carroll is pale and appears tired, and her long straight brown hair is parted in the middle and pulled back from her face.

Al-Jazeera TV would not tell The Associated Press how it received the tape, but issued its own statement

calling for Carroll's release. An Al-Jazeera producer said no militant group's name was attached to the message that it was sent to the station with the tape on Tuesday.

Carroll was a freelance reporter for The Christian Science Monitor, and the newspaper released a statement from her family pleading with her captors to set her free.

"Jill is an innocent journalist and we respectfully ask that you please show her mercy and allow her to return home to her mother, sister and family," the statement said. "Jill is a friend and sister to many Iraqis and has been dedicated to bringing the truth of the Iraq war to the world. We appeal for the speedy and safe return of our beloved daughter and sister."

The State Department responded

to the videotape on Al-Jazeera with a statement saying U.S. officials were doing everything possible to win Carroll's freedom.

"We continue to make every effort we can, working with Iraqis and others, to see Miss Carroll is returned safe and sound," spokesman Sean McCormack said.

Carroll was kidnapped Jan. 7 in one of Baghdad's most dangerous neighborhoods. Gunmen ambushed her car and killed her translator shortly after she left the offices of a Sunni Arab politician.

The Boston-based Christian Science Monitor said Saturday that it continued "to pursue every possible avenue" to win her release.

The U.S. military raided a prominent Sunni mosque a day after

Carroll was kidnapped, sparking a demonstration by hundreds of worshippers. A U.S. military official said the raid was a necessary immediate response to the kidnapping based on a tip provided by an Iraqi citizen.

Insurgents in Iraq have kidnapped more than 240 foreigners and killed at least 39 of them.

Carroll, who speaks some Arabic and wore a head covering while moving around Iraq, has been described by her editor as an aggressive reporter but not a reckless one.

Despite her language skills, Carroll used an Iraqi translator. The translator was slain by the kidnappers. The driver of their car escaped and is now safe with his family, David Clark Scott, the Monitor's international news editor, said.

# At least four foreign terrorists killed in U.S. airstrike in Pakistan, provincial government says

Riaz Khan  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — At least four foreign terrorists died in the purported U.S. airstrike aimed at al-Qaida's No. 2 leader in a Pakistani border village, the provincial government said Tuesday.

The Bush administration called Pakistan a valued ally in the war on terror Tuesday and pledged to continue pursuing al-Qaida leaders amid concerns the airstrike has strained ties between the two countries and could provoke more anti-American sentiment.

The statement issued by the administration of Pakistan's semiautonomous tribal regions bordering Afghanistan also said that between 10 and 12 foreign extremists had been invited to the dinner at the village hit in Friday's attack.

It was the first official confirmation by Pakistani authorities that foreign militants were killed in the



Angry Pakistan protesters shout slogans against the United States, Tuesday, in Peshawar, Pakistan during a rally to condemn the purported CIA airstrikes that killed 17 people in Pakistani tribal area along Afghanistan border.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

attack on the village of Damadola. Women and children also died, triggering outrage in this Islamic nation.

The statement did not identify who the foreigners may have been or who was the target of the missile strike.

Pakistani intelligence officials have said Ayman al-Zawahri, Osama bin Laden's top lieutenant, had been invited to a dinner in the targeted village of Damadola to mark an Islamic holiday but did not show up and sent some aides instead.

There have been conflicting accounts from Pakistani officials and witnesses over who reclaimed bodies from the scene of the missile strike.

Damadola residents claim all the victims were locals and they buried them all. One Pakistani official told The Associated Press Saturday that the bodies had been taken away for DNA tests, although it wasn't clear by whom.

The statement, citing the chief official in the Bajur region where the Damadola is located, said its findings were from a report compiled by a "joint investigation team" but gave no specifics on who was included in the team.

"Four or five foreign terrorists have been killed in this missile attack whose dead bodies have been taken away by their companions to hide the real reason of the attack," the statement said.

"It is regrettable that 18 local people lost their lives in the attack, but this fact also cannot be denied, that 10-12 foreign extremists had been invited on a dinner," it said.

In Washington, a U.S. counterterrorism official said Monday it was not yet known if al-Zawahri was killed.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said a compound that was hit has been visited in the past by significant terrorist figures.

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COMMENTARY

# ASI: For the students, By the students

In 1937, students formed the first Cal Poly student government association. Now, more than 68 years later, ASI is still with students every step of the way developing programs and services, supporting clubs and organizations, providing facilities and recreational opportunities and advocating the student perspective on campus, in the community and beyond.

You've probably seen the Experience ASI window paintings, postcards, magnets and brochures and may have found yourself wondering, "Experience what?" Well, wonder no more.

ASI is a non-profit corporation committed to being every student's connection to the ultimate college experience. ASI offers countless ways to get involved, here are just a few.

Joining student government will help you gain leadership skills in addition to getting involved on the campus, state and national levels. Student government has provided a strong student voice in issues ranging from sustainability to women's respect and safety to improved transportation services.

ASI Lobby Corps advocates the student perspective to our elected officials in their San Luis Obispo and Sacramento offices pushing for increased funding for the CSU, increased financial aid for those in need and the preservation of important outreach and recruitment programs.

The ASI Board of Directors has increased club co-sponsorship funding and created a grant funding program to support Student Life & Leadership programs, Homecoming and the ASI Sport Club Council. This board is the govern-

ing authority of ASI and they also serve as the official voice of Cal Poly students on all student issues.

The executive staff is working hard to bring important programming to our campus and community. Most recently we've launched the "Best Seat in the House" program at Mustang

If none of these opportunities sound interesting, you can always get involved with Cal Poly clubs which work directly with the ASI Epicenter for facilities reservations, club chartering and co-sponsorship funding.

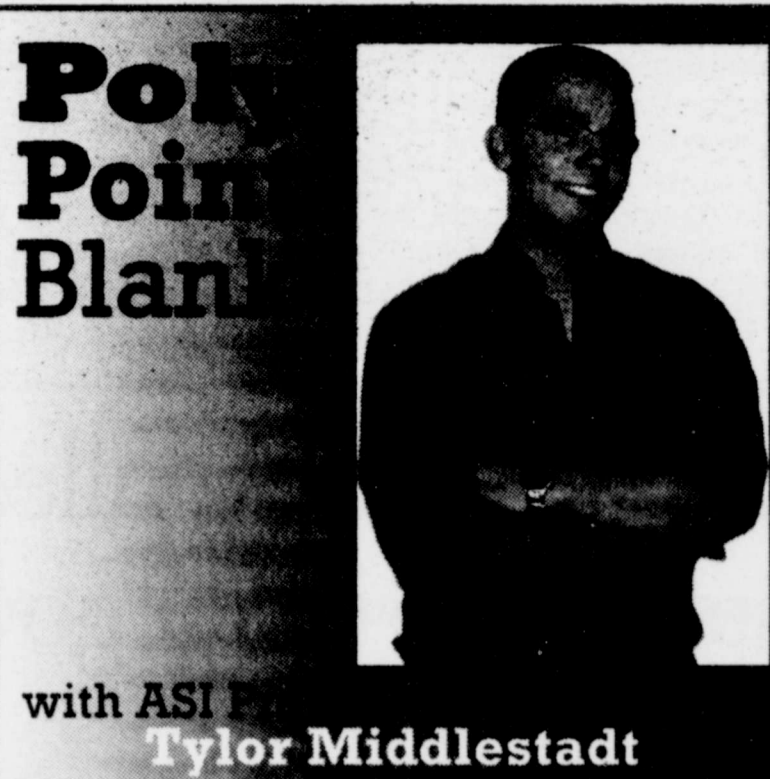
ASI also offers professional opportunities to more than 400 students each year with positions ranging from front desk assistants to children's center classroom assistants to student managers responsible for organizing an entire team of student staff.

If that's not enough, students are encouraged to participate in all of ASI's programs and services designed to shape the ultimate college experience. Here is a peek at what ASI offers:

- Quarterly fitness classes at the Cal Poly Rec Center
- Free movies every Tuesday in Chumash (through Feb. 21)
- Quarterly craft classes at the ASI Craft Center
- Weekly outdoor adventures with ASI Poly Escapes
- Popular performances at UU Hour and the Rec Center thanks to ASI Events
- Preparations for the Cal Poly Rose Float in the Rose Parade

There's no short way to explain what ASI is and does, but it is important that students know that ASI is here "For the Students, By the Students." Now that you know what ASI is all about, don't hesitate to get out and Experience ASI!

*Taylor Middlestadt is the ASI President and Mustang Daily columnist who encourages students to Experience ASI and can be reached at tmiddles@calpoly.edu, 756.5828, AIM: CPASI President*



athletic events where two spirited students are chosen to sit in comfy recliners and enjoy the game while being served free snacks and refreshments.

The University Union Advisory Board is developing plans to enhance the UU Plaza space with better access and improved furniture. They've also recently upgraded technology inside the UU by adding new and improved e-mail stations.

COMMENTARY

# Liberal opposition to Alito is irrational

Travis Lovelady

DAILY TIREADOR (TEXAS TECH)

LUBBOCK, Texas — I had a nightmare the other night. After watching and listening to hours and hours of the confirmation hearings of Judge Samuel Alito, I wondered for many more hours trying to figure out exactly what is wrong with liberals. Falling asleep thinking about this was about the worst thing I could have done. For I dreamed that I was a liberal and that people like Ted Kennedy, Chuck Schumer, Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden actually represented my beliefs. It was scary to say the least.

Luckily, I woke up and realized that I was not a liberal, but that I was still the down to earth, logical-thinking, conservative Republican so many love. It is amazing to think that there are actually people who wake up every day believing in exactly what I could only dream about.

It is incredible to me that the Democrats are so out of touch with reality that they can support someone such as Ted Kennedy. Kennedy actually asserted that Alito's association with a conservative Princeton alumni group, called the Concerned Alumni of Princeton, two decades ago should disqualify him from a seat on the High Court. The fact that Alito's involvement with the group was minimal at best did not concern Kennedy and

company. The fact that Alito became involved with CAP because Princeton kicked the ROTC off campus in 1970 also was not of issue to the Democrats. They just thought that because CAP members have written controversial things about race and sex, Democrats, led by Kennedy, were confident that they could paint Alito as a racist and a sexist.

Then again Alito is not a U.S. senator who got drunk, drove a young, female campaign worker to her death, chose not report it to authorities until the next day and even then only after calling his lawyer, concocting an alibi and developing a strategy to save himself from political death. I know. I have heard it a hundred times. That was a long time ago.

Well, Alito's membership in this group that he barely remembers was a long time ago, too. Nevermind that Kennedy did not bring any of this up back in 1987 when Reagan nominated Alito to be a U.S. district attorney. Kennedy's vote was among the Senate's unanimous consent. And when Sam Alito was nominated for the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in 1990, he again received Kennedy's vote and unanimous consent from the Senate.

As if listening to Kennedy was not bad enough, there also is the constant blabbering from Senator Chuck Schumer. Schumer said over and over

that he was very concerned with Alito not answering questions to his liking or basically that he was mad that he would not come right out and say "I will overturn Roe v. Wade."

Schumer repeatedly tried to bait Judge Alito into saying Roe vs. Wade was "settled law." Alito would not, and Schumer immediately pounced, charging that Alito had been unforthcoming and alleging that Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had been far more forthcoming in her hearings.

But Judge Alito answered more than 500 questions during his confirmation hearings whereas Ginsburg answered just more than 300.

Another thing the Democrats continued to bring up over and over again was the claim that Judge Alito acted improperly by not recusing himself from a three-judge panel which ruled in favor of Vanguard, an investment company that Alito owned some mutual funds with. But the American Bar Association, which leans to the left, contradicted Democrat claims of corruption on the issue and concluded: "On the basis of our interviews with Judge Alito and with well over 300 judges, lawyers and members of the legal community nationwide, all of whom know Judge Alito professionally, the Standing Committee concluded that Judge Alito is an individual of excellent integrity."

There also is the long list of former

law clerks, many of which are liberals and vote for Democrats consistently, who have said Alito is not an ideologue and would make a great Supreme Court justice.

So what is wrong with the Democrats? The problem is that Alito is not an activist judge. He would help put the power back in the hands of the people to decide the important issues of the day, and take it away from an elitist group of judges who are serving for life and are cut off from the rest of the country.

The Supreme Court should not sway in light of public opinion. The Constitution does not change because the American people change their minds. The only way to change the Constitution is to amend it. But liberals forget this. They believe they can put judges in the Supreme Court that will interpret the Constitution to their liking because they are afraid to put the power in the hands of the people of this country.

This is what they have done for a long time and hopefully we are finally seeing the beginning of the end of the out of control power trip the Supreme Court has been on for 30 plus years. Personally, I am sick of east coast, Ivy League liberals telling me what I can and cannot do in America's heartland. The people of Texas should be able to decide what is best for the people of Texas.

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"What the freak is going on?"



## Gocong

continued from page 12

Gocong was also invited to play in a pair of all-star games. He was selected to play in the Las Vegas All-American Classic, but turned down the invitation.

However, Gocong will participate in this weekend's East-West Shrine Game. The East-West Shrine Game is in its 81st year and features some of the best college seniors from across the nation.

"Not even up to a year and a half ago, I dreamed about it," Gocong said. "It's nice to say that maybe it could come true."

During the combine, Gocong hopes to run a 4.6 second, 40-yard-dash and hit 40 repetitions at 225 pounds on the bench press. Two goals he hopes to reach by following a strict training regimen with Chris Holder,

the Mustangs' strength coach, Gocong said.

The NFL combine will give Gocong the opportunity to impress NFL scouts and coaches alike in an effort to be noticed on a whole new level. At the combine he will be competing with the best college football players from around the country.

"It is exciting, but at the same

*"Not even up to a year and a half ago, I dreamed about it. It's nice to say that maybe it could come true."*

— CHRIS GOCONG  
Defensive end

time it is kind of nerve racking," Gocong said, but after leading the Mustangs to a 9-4 record, a second straight Great West Football Conference championship and a first ever NCAA Division I-AA playoff appearance, it would appear that he is no stranger to pressure.

## Cal Poly Sports CALENDAR

### JANUARY 20

**-Swimming**  
at Loyola Marymount,  
2 p.m.  
**-Wrestling**  
at Oklahoma St., 6 p.m.

### JANUARY 21

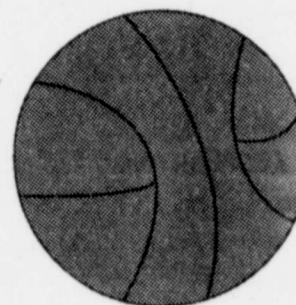
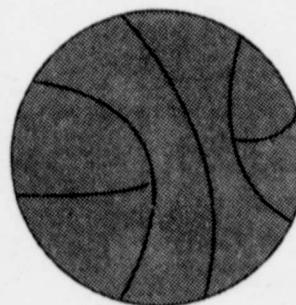
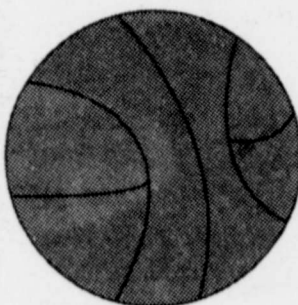
**-Swimming**  
vs. Cal Baptist, 1 p.m.  
**-Men's Basketball**  
vs. UC Santa Barbara,  
4 p.m.  
**-Women's Basketball**  
at UC Santa Barbara,  
2 p.m.  
**-Wrestling**  
at Oklahoma, 7 p.m.

## BIG WEST CONFERENCE

### STANDINGS

#### Men's Basketball

	Big West	Overall
UC Irvine	4-0	8-8
Cal State Fullerton	3-2	9-5
Pacific	2-2	11-6
Long Beach State	2-2	7-8
Cal Poly	2-2	4-11
UC Riverside	2-3	2-13
UC Santa Barbara	1-3	7-8
Cal State Northridge	1-3	6-8



#### Women's Basketball

	Big West	Overall
Long Beach State	4-0	11-5
Cal Poly	3-1	8-6
UC Santa Barbara	3-1	8-7
Cal State Fullerton	3-2	5-10
Cal State Northridge	2-3	5-11
UC Irvine	1-3	3-13
UC Riverside	1-4	4-10
Pacific	1-4	4-12

## The New York Times Crossword

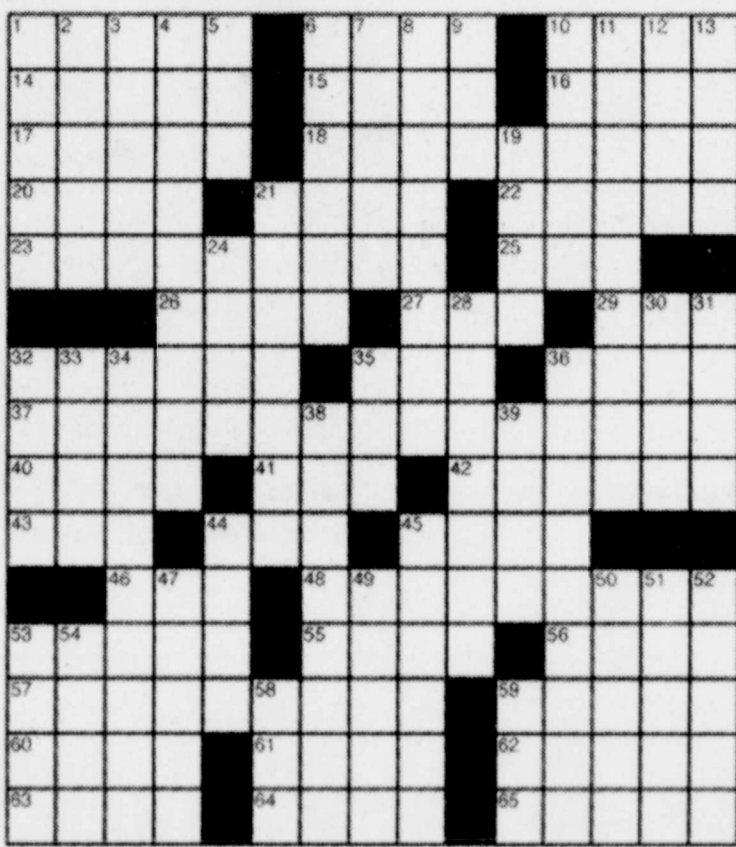
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1207

- ACROSS**
- Busch Gardens locale
  - Enervates
  - Tête-à-tête
  - Modern source of pass-along jokes
  - Legal claim
  - Too smooth
  - For the
  - "Things are great for me"
  - Long march
  - Hotfooted it
  - Little laugh
  - #1 hit for the Crystals
  - Eerie ability
  - Pay, with "up"
  - Belief system
  - C.I.A. forerunner
  - Odds and ends
- DOWN**
- Serengeti sighting
  - Vitriol
  - "Quit cryin'"
  - Mailed
  - Whole lot
  - Does toe loops, e.g.
  - Army Corps of Engrs. supply
  - Source of an androgyne's confusion
  - Window ledge
  - Alley
  - Kipling's comment about "The Liner"
  - "Peter and the Wolf" bird's name
  - Suffragist Carrie Chapman
  - Award for Samuel Beckett

- Track cry after "and"
- "Absolutely Fabulous" mom
- "Aha!"
- Old Harper's Bazaar illustrator
- Abacus wielder
- Curtain holders
- majesté
- Netizens

- Tithing fraction
- Subject for an Italian aria
- Prides of lions?
- Criticize analytically
- Happy hour order
- Pass
- Evangelist — Semple McPherson
- Pitching, in a way
- Cat
- Two-scoopers, e.g.
- Acme
- Lip balm ingredient
- Little kid
- Particular
- Able to feel
- One may be skipped
- Get by (on)
- Sour fruit



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- Finishes, with "up"
- DOS part: Abbr.
- "Fargo" director
- Deteriorate
- Martini ingredient
- Undoubtedly
- Game summary
- Tulsa's locale: Abbr.
- Butt heads
- Fixed charge
- "That's for sure"
- Weapon handles
- "With Me" (popular hymn)
- Car on a train
- A long time
- Hurly-burly
- "I get it now"
- Fish lacking a pelvic fin
- de Cologne

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.  
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#### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

HARP PLAN PADRE  
OLEO ROMA OBOES  
BEFOREYOUKNOWIT  
BURLAP ISIT NNE  
STY GPS EDITS  
QUICKASAWINK  
MSU NAM COZEN  
ROTI GRABS BERT  
BEECH RAP IDO  
INAHEARTBEAT  
DERMA EEG ABC  
ALY BATS DEARIE  
RIGHTHISSECOND  
CLIME ETTU RAGE  
SIGMA REAP EROS

# CLASSIFIED

#### HELP WANTED

Student Neighborhood Assistance Program (SNAP) Worker:  
Temporary, Part Time position;  
Open Until Filled  
\$11.00-\$12.30/Hr. Work  
Schedule: 8:30 p.m.- 2:30 a.m.  
Thurs., Fr., & Sat. SNAP staff act as first responders to general noise complaints throughout the City and resolves the incident.  
Employment Standards: MUST BE: enrolled at Cal Poly or Cuesta and carrying a class load of 9 units or more; [cont..]

#### HELP WANTED

[...] have an overall GPA of 2.0 at time of application; be at least 18 years old; free of misdemeanor or felony convictions (Misdemeanor citations may be excepted on a case-by-case basis); able to communicate in an enforcement setting, understand oral and written instructions and possess a valid CA class "C" driver's license. Apply at [www.slocity.org](http://www.slocity.org)  
City of San Luis Obispo,  
990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 805-781-7250

#### HELP WANTED

CASTING CALL  
Upcoming Drama Series  
No Experience Needed, Will Train  
Professional, Fun  
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Call 805-294-0331 for info, appt  
POSITION AVAILABLE  
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Property Services  
(805) 801-6694  
Free list of all houses and condos for sale in SLO.  
Call Nelson Real Estate  
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[steve@slohomes.com](mailto:steve@slohomes.com)  
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Now ads will be on the Mustang Daily and online!  
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#### LOST AND FOUND

Lost High School Ring; silver w/ blue stone. (805) 550-414  
Olympus digital camera found near foothill. Contact: 528-7445  
Reward for Lost Cannon Powershot Digital Camera at Marti's 1/7  
Call Beth @ (775) 544-2672  
Lost green tool bag w/ electrical tools. Left in 52-E27 on 11/16.  
Matt (313) 595-0710  
Missing anything?  
Lost and Found ads are FREE



**M. BASKETBALL**

**AGGIES CORRAL MUSTANG MEN ...**

**U**C Davis opened up a 16-point second-half lead en route to a 65-52 victory over Cal Poly in a non-conference men's basketball game Friday night before 1,530 in The Pavilion.

Rommel Marentez scored 16 points, Kyle Brucculeri added 12 and Thomas Juillcrat 11 as the Aggies improved to 5-10 on the year.

Cal Poly, led by Derek Stockalper with 14 points and Gabe Stephenson with 12, fell to 4-11, suffering its third-straight loss after opening Big West play with a pair of wins at Cal State Fullerton and UC Riverside.

Cal Poly made just 31.1 percent of its floor shots, including only two of 13 three-pointers. UC Davis connected on 43.1 percent of its field goal attempts — six of 20 from long range.

Cal Poly connected on 22 of 28 free throws, but was held to just 14 field goals, eight fewer than UC Davis.

Cal Poly hosts UC Santa Barbara for the first of four consecutive home games next Saturday (Jan. 21) at 4 p.m. in Mott Gym.

~Sports Information Report

**W. BASKETBALL**

**... AND THE WOMEN TOO**

**A** 12-0 run by UC Davis midway through the second half extended the Aggies' lead to 15 points and UC Davis coasted to a 73-59 victory over Cal Poly in a non-conference women's basketball game Friday night in Mott Gym.

Cal Poly, led by Jessica Eggleston's 22 points, fell to 8-6.

Cal Poly's only lead of the second half was at 35-33 with 19:18 to go on a layup by Eggleston. Lara Gray hit a three-pointer with 18:10 to go, giving the Aggies the lead for good at 39-36. The 12-0 Aggie run gave UC Davis a 63-48 advantage with 7:28 to go and Cal Poly got no closer than 10 points the rest of the way.

Eggleston made nine-of-14 floor shots and three-of-five free throws en route to her third 20-point effort in the last four games. Megan Harrison was Cal Poly's only other double-digit scorer with 10 points.

Cal Poly visits UC Santa Barbara next Saturday (Jan. 21) for a Big West game at 2 p.m. ~Sports Information Report

**INDOOR TRACK & FIELD**

**AYERS-STAMPER WINS IN FRESNO**

**T**he Cal Poly women's indoor track team opened its season at the "Run For the Dream," meet held in Fresno, where Mustang Danielle Ayers-Stamper recorded the meet's best time in preliminaries in the 55-meter hurdles event, with a time of 8.23, as well as competing in the shot put. She would go on to win the 55m hurdle event in the finals.

Ayers-Stamper, along with Julie Dufrense competed in the shot put event with Dufrense finishing in seventh with a mark of 45-03.50. Ayers-Stamper finished in 10th with a throw of 38-06.00.

Ayers-Stamper is a transfer from Seattle Pacific University.

The Mustangs return to action Jan. 26-27, visiting Seattle to participate in the University of Washington Invitational.

~Sports Information Report

**Gocong invited to draft combine**

Christopher Gunn  
MUSTANG DAILY

With four seasons of absolute havoc under his belt, Cal Poly defensive-end Chris Gocong is looking to take his game to the next level of competition after being invited to the 2006 NFL scouting combine.

Gocong, ranked No. 19 in the pre-draft defensive-end rankings according to Scott Wright's NFL Draft Countdown, will attend the NFL combine as an invitee.

"It is a great honor, but still football is a team sport and I could not have done it without everyone behind me," Gocong said.

Gocong is the second Mustang football player to perform at the combine in consecutive years following former teammate Jordan Beck, now of the Atlanta Falcons.

"I think there is actually a little less pressure, it shows that a Division I-AA guy can go all the way," Gocong said of his former teammate.

In 2004, Gocong was runner-up to Beck in the Buck Buchanan award voting for the best defensive player in Division I-AA. An award which he returned to win in 2005 after compiling a nation's best in sacks per game (1.81), second in tackles for lost yardage (2.35 per game) and 23rd in forced fumbles (.31), 98 total tackles (46 solo), and a Cal Poly-record 23.5 sacks and 31.0 tackles for lost yardage.

Along with the Buck Buchanan Award, Gocong also racked up a slough of other awards this season. He was selected a first team All-American by every major poll, including the Coaches' Association, CollegeSportsReport.com and I-AA.org.

see Gocong, page 11



BRENNAN ANGEL FILE PHOTO

Chris Gocong rushes Idaho State's Luke Sniewski, during Cal Poly's 35-10 romp over the Bengals. Gocong had 2.5 sacks and two forced fumbles in the game.

**Mustang swimmers out-dueled**

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

The men's and women's swim teams lost dual meets to Cal State Northridge on Friday and the women's team lost dual meets to the University of Nevada-Reno and San Diego State the next day.

First-place finishes in men's competition came from Nate Williams in the 100-backstroke (53.34), John Michelmores in the 100-breaststroke (59.31) and 200-breaststroke (2:04.59) and Matt Howell in the

100-fly (53.76) who earned a personal best. Both men's relay teams earned second-place finishes with times of 1:37.40 in the 200 medley and 3:13.83 in the 400 free.

In women's competition, first place finishers were Stacey Sorenson in the 200-free (1:58.57), 50-free (24.84), and the 100-free (54.03), Patricia Laverty in the 100-back (1:04.99) and Katherine Gage in the 200 back (2:17.24) who recorded a personal best. In relays, the Mustang women earned second place for the 200 medley (1:56.00) and the 400-free (3:54.18).

Leading the Mustangs in the one and three-meter dive were Stefany Bowers for the women and Lara for the men.

Immediately following the meet the Mustangs left for Reno, Nev. where the women's team swam against Nevada and San Diego State. The Mustangs fell 186-100 against Nevada and 189-108 against San Diego State.

Cal Poly recorded no first-place finishes against either team. The highest finishers in individual competition were Kira Linsmeier who placed second in the 200 IM (2:20.86), Stefany Bowers with a third-place finish in the women's one meter dive, earning a score of 144.65, and Mary Ellen DeHaven who finished third in the 100 butterfly (1:06.92).

In relay competition, Stacey Sorenson, Emily Scholl, Erin Moody and Mary Ellen DeHaven earned a second-place spot in the 200 free relay with a time of 1:47.77.

Competition continues for Cal Poly next weekend. They will head to Loyola Marymount on Friday for a 2 p.m. meet and then return home to host Cal Baptist for a 1 p.m. meet the next day.



BRENNAN ANGEL MUSTANG DAILY

Kira Linsmeier swimming the 1,000-yard freestyle at the dual meet on Friday.

**Wrestling wins weekend duals**

SPORTS INFORMATION REPORT

Cal Poly held off Boise State in the second match of the evening for the Mustangs, 24-14, behind a pin fall victory by David Roberts (141), as well as victories by Chad Mendes (125), Jeff Owens (149) and Darrell Vasquez (133).

Cal Poly won its earlier match against Purdue, defeating the Boilermakers 29-10 behind an inspiring pin fall victory by David Roberts (141) and a major decision victory by Arturo Basulto.

Roberts began the dual meet with the Boilermakers scoring the pin at the 6:19 mark. Roberts trailed in the match 13-11 before scoring a takedown that led to the juniors second pin of the season, improving his overall record to 9-1.

Basulto (285) defeated Aaron Keough by major decision, 8-0, improving the juniors overall record to 15-6.

In the featured match of the evening, No. 6 Ryan Halsey took on No. 5 Ben Wissel. Halsey led for much of the match, but a last second takedown at the end of the second period gave Wissel a lead he would not relinquish, as he held on for the 3-1 lead.

Cal Poly returns to action Jan. 20, visiting defending national champion, Oklahoma State followed by Oklahoma on Jan. 21.